

Message Text

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71

ORIGIN SS-05

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 /019 R

66011

DRAFTED BY S/S-O:MTANNER

APPROVED BY S/S-O:MTANNER

S/S:PSABASTIAN

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P 132322Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 202216

FOLLOWING REPEAT ATHENS 8339 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ANKARA NATO
13 AUG 76

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 8339

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, GR, TU, US

SUBJECT: EXERCISE PHIBLEX 2-7T

REF: (A) STATE 201143 (DTG 122337Z AUG 76), (B) CJUSMAGG
121145Z AUG 76) (NOTAL), (C) CJUSMAGG 121644Z AUG 76 (NOTAL)

1. BY REF B, WHICH CROSSED WITH REF A, WE REPORTED OUR
USE OF THE APPROVED PHIBLEX 2-7T GUIDANCE IN RESPONSE TO
AN AP QUERY. PRESS REACTION TO THAT STATEMENT SO FAR HAS
BEEN FAIRLY OBJECTIVE, ALTHOUGH SPECIFIC DATES AND EXACT
LOCATION ARE NOW IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

2. DCM STEARNS SPOKE WITH MINDEF AVEROFF ABOUT THE FORE-
GOING, AND ADVISED HIM WE WOULD REFER ANY FURTHER PRESS
QUERIES ON THEPHIBLEX TO THE GOG PER REF C. (OUR CONCERN
IS THAT WE AVOID AN OPPOSITION CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE EXER-
CISE WHICH COULD LEAD TO A GOG-INITIATED CANCELLATION.)
AVEROFF, WHILE WORRIED THAT "EXTREMIST ELEMENTS" MIGHT
NOW ORGANIZE A "RECEPTION" FOR THE MARINES, GAVE NO
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INDICATION THAT HE WANTED TO CANCEL THE EXERCISE.

3. I DO NOT REPEAT NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD UNILATERALLY
CANCEL OR DEFER THE EXERCISE AT THIS POINT - ALTHOUGH I
ALSO AM MORE THAN A LITTLE APPREHENSIVE ABOUT IT.

4. HOWEVER, IN THE EVENT THE UNSC DEBATE IN NEW YORK SHOULD
DEVELOP IN A WAY WHICH LEADS TO A STRONG GREEK REACTION
AGAINST THE US, WE MAY HAVE TO REVIEW THE SITUATION.

KUBISCH

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EXERCISES, PHIBLEX 2-7T
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE202216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:MTANNER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760312-1011
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760854/aaaaburp.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 201143
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 MAR 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <25 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXERCISE PHIBLEX 2-7T
TAGS: MARR, MPOL, GR, TU, US
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006